Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original)A salt of nateglinide having a melting point in the range of 50 to 300 °C.

Claim 2 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 1 having a melting point in the range of 50 to 125 °C.

Claim 3 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 1 having a melting point in the range of 150 to 300 °C.

Claim 4 (original) A salt of nateglinide having a solubility in water of at least 0.18 mg/ml.

Claim 5 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 4 having a solubility in water of at least 0.4 mg/ml.

Claim 6 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 5 having a solubility in water of at least 40 mg/ml.

Claim 7 (currently amended) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 1 ~~any one of the claims 1 to 6~~ having an X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) pattern that comprises a combination of reflection maxima as set forth in Table IV.

Claim 8 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 7, which is present in an amorphous form.

Claim 9 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 7, which is present in a crystalline form.

Claim 10 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 7, which is present as a mixture of an amorphous form and a crystalline form.

Claim 11 (currently amended) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, in which the cation is selected from the group consisting of Na^+, K^+, Ca^{2+}, Mg^{2+}, the protonated form of Tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane, the protonated form of N-methyl-D-glucamine and a protonated form of Lysine.

Claim 12 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 11, in which the ratio of the nateglinide anion to the cation is 1:1.

Claim 13 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 11, in which the ratio of the nateglinide anion to the cation is 2:1.

Claim 14 (currently amended) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ that loses between 0.1 and 14 % of its mass on heating.

Claim 15 (original) A salt of nateglinide according to claim 14 that loses between 0.1 and 9 % of its mass on heating.

Claim 16 (currently amended) A salt of nateglinide according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 having a bulk density between 0.1 and 0.6 g/cm^3.

Claim 17 (currently amended) A composition comprising a salt of nateglinide according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1.

Claim 18 original) A composition according to claim 17 comprising one or more additional ingredients selected from the group consisting of vitamins, nutrition supplements and pharmaceutically active substances.

Claim 19 (original)A composition according to claim 18 comprising nateglinide or repaglinide as additional ingredient.

Claim 20 (original) A composition according to claim 18 wherein the pharmaceutically active substance is selected from the group consisting of insulin sensitizers, insulin secretion enhancers, Dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitors, ACE inhibitors and angiotensin II inhibitors.

Claim 21 (original) A composition according to claim 18, which is a combined preparation or pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 22 (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 21 for the treatment of diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, or conditions associated therewith.

Claim23 (currently amended) A method of treatment of diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, or conditions associated therewith comprising the administration, to a mammal in need of such

treatment, of an effective amount a salt of nateglinide according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~.

Claim 24 (original) A method of treatment according to claim 23 wherein the cardiovascular diseases or conditions associated therewith are selected from the group consisting of hyperglycemia, hyperinsulinaemia, hyperlipidaemia, insulin resistance, impaired glucose metabolism, obesity, diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, cataracts, diabetic nephropathy, glomerulosclerosis, diabetic neuropathy, erectile dysfunction, premenstrual syndrome, vascular restenosis, ulcerative colitis, coronary heart disease, hypertension, angina pectoris, myocardial infarction, stroke, skin and connective tissue disorders, foot ulcerations, metabolic acidosis, arthritis, osteoporosis, polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and impaired glucose tolerance.